

REMARKS

Pending Claims

Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1, 3, and 8-16 are currently pending.

Art Rejections and Amended Claims

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-7 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Pearson (US Publ. No. 2003/0212394); claims 8-10 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious in light of a combination of Pearson and Weber (U.S. 5908410); and claims 8-10 and 12-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious in light of a combination of Pearson and Gisselberg (U.S. Publ. No. 2003/0052785).

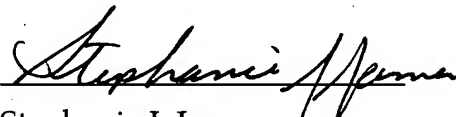
The Applicant has amended the independent claims 1 and 11 thereby rendering moot those rejections. None of the references show or suggest the claimed combination of elements including a marker inside an encased lumen with the marker element extending over the length of the electrode. The Examiner cited Pearson in relation to markers along the length of the shaft. However, the "markers" in Pearson are located at a plurality of discreet spots on its introducer. Pearson's markers do not extend along an axial length of Pearson's electrode. Applicant's arrangement leads to advantage during use in positioning the electrode(s) because the position of their full length can be observed using the marker.

CONCLUSION

All of the claims remaining in this application should now be seen to be in condition for allowance. The prompt issuance of a notice to that effect is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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By its attorneys:

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